Director's Letter

by Lee Lockwood

A Secretary Is Found For Boskug

He is Mitchell Wade and his telephone number is 623-0993. Mitchell plans to be at most all Boskug meetings, handing out questionnaires and answering questions. Stop by his table, introduce yourself, and make him welcome.

Mitchell was briefly a Boskug member a few years ago, then moved to New Haven while his wife attended grad school. Now he's back in the Boston area permanently, working as a freelance writer.

Still Needed: A Program Coordinator

I hope someone will volunteer soon to coordinate our ten yearly programs, a task which I am doing currently in addition to all the other chores connected with running a user group.

What's involved? Not a lot of work or time, really.

1) You are responsible for designing the mix of pro grams and scheduling them, with my help.

2) You find the right person or people to take on the responsibility of organizing each program. For example, Art LeFort and Michael Spampinato will be organizing the September 8th program (I hope) on new public domain software.

3) You make whatever arrangements are necessary with Minuteman or BCS for equipment, etc., to be available that night.

4) You fill out each month's BCS form for the Calendar listing of the next month's program.

It's a challenging and interesting job and one whose payoff you can see quickly and directly. Please, someone, come forward and take it on. There are so many smart, knowledgable, talented people in Boskug; I can't believe there isn't somebody willing to spend the small amount of time it takes to do this job.

MS-DOS Workshops Redux

Elsewhere in this issue you'll see a notice about the fine MS-DOS workshops run by Michael Spampinato. This year, in response to the large demand, he'll be adding an Intermediate DOS workshop to his already popular mothly Beginner's class.

If you want to learn the basics, and learn them solidly, I heartily recommend Michael's workshops. They're held at the BCS on Saturdays. But hurry, because they're open to all BCS members and get subscribed quickly.

The New BCS Headquarters

When the BCS first began sending out literature about finding a home in the Route 128 area where user groups could also hold their meetings, some skeptical eyebrows were raised, since everyone knows how much some of the executives love the plush One Center Plaza location.

Meeting Schedule

September 8:

"What's New in Public Domain Utilities? and An Inside Look at WordStar Release 4"

In September's two-part program Boskug's disk and bulletin board librarians will describe the latest in public domain software programs and how they can make your computing life easier. This discussion will include both CP/M and MS-DOS utilities.

Also on the card will be MicroPro's man in Boston, Jim Welch, who will field questions about the new versions of WordStar. He will also facilitate a Boskug-centered group purchase of the new product. As an added enticement, he will raffle off a CP/M version of WordStar Release 4.

October 13:

"Managing a Hard Disk"

A panel of Boskug's experts in Winchestery will host a Q&A session on formatting, backing up, organizing files, etc. User areas, named directories under ZCPR, directories & subdirectories in DOS, paths, and other exciting subjects will be covered by our Seagate Solons. If you have 5mb of storage or more, regardless of computer, you won't want to miss this.

NOTE: Programs will now start at 7:30pm sharp!!!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Boskug, the Kaypro Users Group of the
Boston Computer Society, is a volunteer
group of Kaypro owners who have banded
together to share information and solve
problems related to their computers,
accessories and software. Boskug meets on
the second Tuesday of the month at the
Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical
School, Rt. 2A, Lexington, just west of Rt. 128,
near Hanscom Field. Programs include
lectures, panels, and open-ended discus-
sions. Meeting notices are carried in the BCS
monthly CALENDAR and in its bimonthly
magazine, UPDATE.

To join Boskug, write the Boston Computer
Society at 1 Center Plaza, Boston, MA 02108,
or call (617) 367-8080. If you live more than 75
miles away and wish merely to subscribe to
The Kugel, send $15 for a year's subscription
to BOSKUG, 27 Howland Rd., W. Newton, MA
02165. Foreign subscriptions: $20. Please
send change of address information to the
BCS; enclose your old mailing label.

BOSKUG ACTIVISTS
DIRECTOR: Lee Lockwood 965-6343
CO-DIRECTOR: Bob Waters 894-5334
SECRETARY: Mitchell Wade 623-0993
TREASURER: Michael Bartell 628-8806
TRAINING
COORDINATOR: Adam Heath 628-9719
LIBRARY:
      (CP/M)   Art LeFort 326-8976
      (MS DOS) Michael Bate ... 864-4358
      (Paper)   George Fischer 774-4307
BOSKUG ELECTRONIC
BULLETIN BOARD 776-6029
      Sysop   Adam Heath 628-9719
The Boston Kugel: John Goldie ... 545-0731

BOSKUG PHONE HELP

CP/M:
FILE RECOVERY,
TECHNICAL HELP:
      Art LeFort 326-8976
      David Veinot 641-0889
WORD PROCESSING
      Perfect Writer:
              Sarah Wernick ... 738-5820
      WordStar:
              Alan Chapman ..877-6848
COMMUNICATIONS : Mike Bartell .. 628-8806
ZCPR: Jay Sage 965-3552

MS-DOS:
FILE RECOVERY,
TECHNICAL HELP
      Michael Spampinato 923-9513
WORD PROCESSING :
      Alan Chapman 877-6848
      Karen Rockow 354-0124
dBASE III:
      Mike Holmes 993-0156
      Bob Waters 894-5334
SPREADSHEETS:
      Nat Weiner 769-3744
LAPTOPS: Bob Jenner ...... (207) 863-4623
KAYPRO TECH SUPPORT: 1-800-5-KAYPRO
MICROPRO: 1-800-227-5609
B.C.S. INFO LINE: 227-0170
B.C.S. BULLETIN BOARD: 227-7986

Contents

Michael Spampinato is on
vacation this month. His column,
MS-DOS Chronicles, will return with
our next issue.

Desktop Publishers, Graphic Designers

The **Boston Kugel** needs volunteers to help design and compose future issues
of the newsletter. If you are interested in taking part in the production of this
publication, please get in touch with editor John Goldie at 545-0731. Currently
we use Aldus PageMaker on a Macintosh computer at the BCS office. We
would like in the future use an MS-DOS page composition system for
efficiency's sake. If you've got any ideas of suggestions, give me a call.

The Boskug CP/M Library

by Art LeFort

The Boskug CP/M disk library is a major resource for public domain and shareware software. Public domain is software that the author has graciously made available to the general public free-of-charge in an effort to aid other CP/M users to solve problems that the author wrote the software to solve. True p.d. software may be copied and/or modified, but not sold (or bundled "free" if you buy something else) without the written consent of the author.

Some authors allow copying and free distribution for free, but maintain a copyright and do NOT allow modification (NewSweep, NULU, etc.). While this is not truly p.d. software, it is generally thought of as "restricted p.d. software". "Shareware" software is commercial software that the author allows free copying and distribution, but expects a fee if you like the software after testing and expect to use it. While not free, the author allows the user to "test drive" the software before paying money for software that is flawed or is not what the user really needs! Boskug urges all users of shareware to follow the procedures put forth by the author or to discontinue use of the software. Doing this encourages more authors to write new or improved software for CP/M users. Our disks range from general utilities that maintain/copy files, do sorted directories, set-up printers with proper codes, squeeze or crunch files to save disk space. They include applications programs which work with the software that came bundled with the Kaypro computer. Examples of these programs are games, utility software, financial software that works with MBasic, templates that work with PerfectCalc, text filters and auxiliary programs that work with WordStar.

Our disks are available for copying 1/2 hour before meetings and for a short time after meetings (time permitting). Mail order CP/M disks are available from:

David Veinot
CP/M Mail Order Disks
24 Menotomy Rd.
Arlington, MA 02174
(617)641-0889

A small copying fee of $6.00/disk for BCS (any group) members and $8.00/disk for non-BCS members, is charged to offset the cost of media, copying, and mailing. We do NOT charge for the software contained! Software is distributed on Kaypro II format (SSDD) which can be read by any CP/M Kaypro. We have collected our Library from donations of our users and by accessing electronic bulletin boards and remote CP/M (RCP/M) systems by telephone all over the country. Our start-up library was greatly assisted by the Boston Osborne Group of the Boston Computer Society. Since that time the Boskug CP/M Librarian has added to the collection and has even authored a lot of documentation on how to use programs, if that documentation did not already exist. Charlie Bowen, my predecessor, and Lee Lockwood were the major forces that kept the Library growing. Their efforts are visible in any disk released before April 1986.

In April of 1986 I volunteered to succeed Charlie. I did this because, although I am not a programmer or power-user, I felt I needed to help Boskug members as others had helped me in the past. (Plus there were no other volunteers!) Since then I struggled along until this June when it was decided to form a Library Committee.

The Library Committee, not yet operational, will spread the workload among its members, act as consultants in their area of expertise (or one that they have an interest in), review and/or edit the work of other members to improve the quality of our Library, explore new categories of software that we don't

The Boskug MS-DOS Workshops

Introduction to MS-DOS

Intended for beginners, "Introduction to MS-DOS" will cover the essential DOS commands and public domain substitutes for these commands. Participants receive a free disk of public domain software. 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the BCS office, One Center Plaza, Boston.

Intermediate MS-DOS

Intended for people who are reasonably comfortable with DOS, "Intermediate MS-DOS" will cover more advanced DOS commands such as MODE, BACKUP,

and RESTORE, and the AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files. 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the BCS office, One Center Plaza, Boston.

Both workshops are taught by Michael Spampinato and are conducted on the third Saturday of the month. Workshop dates for the Fall of '87 are: September 19th, October 17th, and November 21st. The cost of the workshops is $15 for members and $20 for non-members. Call 367-8080 to sign up for a workshop, then mail a check to BOSKUG c/o Adam Heath, 17R Endicott Ave. #2, Somerville, MA 02144. Make checks payable to the BCS.

Space is limited, so call NOW

The Sysop's Column

by Adam Heath

A lot has happened in the past month since my last column. The board survived another hard disk disaster, the RCP/M area is open, the BCS is thinking about establishing a centralized BCS network that could replace the board, and the FCC is thinking about increasing the access charges for public packet switching networks. I had planned to focus on the RCP/M commands in this article, but I feel that I must report on the other important on-line happenings, and will put off until later a detailed article on the RCP/M commands. Fortunately there are several very good help files on the BBS, and the RCP/M area is fairly easy to use. I will include a brief description of the RCP/M commands to help you get up to speed in the Boskug board.

The No Back Up Blues

Disaster struck again on July 3d, when I trashed the hard disk. I was installing ZCMD29, a CP/M CCP replacement, when I ran the Kaypro 10 version of PUTSYS.COM to reinstall plain vanilla CP/M. Unfortunately I wasn't aware that PUTSYS.COM is incompatible with the TurboROM! When I took a look at the directory, all I saw was garbage. After 3 solid days of work, I was able to reformat the hard disk, install ZCMD29, install a new driver for the 20 meg Mini Winnie external drive, and reinstall the BBS software.

The only thing that I lost was all of the PD files that I hadn't backed up. Fortunately many users responded to my pleas and uploaded tons of new files to replace all that were lost. I'm very pleased to report that the board has been running very smoothly since this disaster. I also swear on a stack of floppies to back up the board monthly, and to always back up the board before mucking about with the hard disk. (Yes, I ignored the cardinal rule of computing: "Always Make Back Ups!")

Boskug in Modem Land

I bought my first modem for $160 less than three years ago. At that time my $160 paid for a Novation J-Cat 300 baud dumb modem. After a year of manually dialing busy BBSs, and downloads that seemed to take forever, I bought a 1200 BPS modem for $225. I was amazed by the improvement in speed, and I loved having the modem do the dialing. I could sit back and wait for my computer to start beeping when I connected with a BBS.

Lately I have been thinking that it would be nice to upgrade to a 2400 bps modem. I've used the U.S. Robotics Courier 2400 bps modem on the BBS to dial out to Irv Hoff's PRACSA system, and once again I was amazed by the difference a faster modem can make. I'd love to have one of my one to use for calling other BBSs.

A few years ago Boskug sponsored a group buy of 1200 bps modems; if there is enough interest I would be willing to coordinate a similar purchase of 2400 bps modems. I have seen inexpensive 2400 bps modems advertised for under $200. I'm still looking for a good 2400 bps modem that is available in both internal and external versions at a reasonable price. (A top contender is the USR Courier.) If you are interested in participating in the group buy, or know of a good 2400 bps modem, please leave a message on the board or speak with me at the September meeting.

Are You Online?

I have been sitting in my living room watching the BBS as I write. Only one user has been on the board this evening, and only fifty Boskug members have called the board. I believe that the board is a valuable resource for members between meetings. The board serves as an electronic meeting place that is available 24 hours a day. The board also serves as a means of exchange for the latest in PD software for CP/M and MS-DOS machines. I am at a loss to explain why the board is being underutilized.

I suspect that many Boskug members don't own modems, or if they own a modem they don't know how to use it to call the board. Admittedly, the world of telecommunications can seem arcane; it isn't enough to figure out what the word MODEM means, one has to figure out parity, baud rate, word length, stop bits, XMODEM, RS232, COM port assignments, and more. Hardware problems abound; the novice can spend half an hour trying to figure out why his modem isn't working only to discover that a cable is loose. (Yes, it's happened to me!) One night I couldn't figure out why I was suddenly dumped off line, and I feared the worst until I discovered that my cat had unplugged my phone line while chasing a mouse! (Editor's note: We understand this problem happens often to Macintosh owners).

I'd dearly love to hear from you if you are amongst the silent majority who don't call the board. If you've never called the board, please talk to me at a meeting or write to me at: 17R Endicott Ave #2, Somerville, MA 02144. I'd like to know why you haven't called the board, and what the group can do to help you get on line.

Access Charges

Under current FCC rules, commercial networks are exempt from local phone line access charges. The FCC has proposed regulation changes that would apply a $5.00 an hour access charge per line for commercial networks. (Private networks would be exempt from this access charge.) It's a safe bet that this charge would be passed on to the customers of these services, effectively doubling the hourly usage fees. This could sound a death knell for information utilities such as Compuserve, Delphi, GEnie, and The Source and for networks such as Telenet and PC Pursuit. The FCC is soliciting public comments upon their proposed rule changes. I have seen plenty of messages urging modem users to write to the FCC to express their opinion on this issue. If you are interested in writing to the FCC, you may want to look at some of the files on this issue that available on our board and on the BCS Telecommunications board at (617) 786-9788. (The BCS Telecommunications group is also preparing a special issue of the

"Online Connection" devoted to a discussion of the proposed access fees.)

The BCS Network

The BCS has 19 bulletin boards on line at the moment. One board is hosting three BCS users groups! There are several BCS user groups that are interested in providing online services for their members, but don't have the resources to run their own board. Recently the Telecommunications group hosted a meeting of BCS sysops to discuss the design and implementation of a centralized BCS multi-user telecommunications facility. Representatives from Boston Citinet, Delphi, and Global Village were on hand to discuss the use of their systems as a host for a BCS network.

The attending sysops brainstormed about the features that they'd like to see on such a system. The wish list included: no access charges, a simple interface for novices and a user pro

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"A BCS regional network could do at lot to unite all of the different BCS user groups and SIGS. Leave your name and number on the BBS if you are interested in joining the effort."

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grammable interface for experts, separate BBSs for each user group, a gigabyte of files storage for software libraries for each BCS user group and SIG, realtime conferencing facilities, a gateway to commercial E-Mail systems, a gateway to FidoNet, private E-Mail, a databases of online resource people and self proclaimed experts, access via Tymenet or Telenet, and enough phone lines so that no one ever encountered a busy signal!!

A BCS regional network could do a lot to unite all of the different BCS user groups and SIGs. The potential of such a network is vast, if it can be implemented in a way that is accessible to novices and inviting to experts. However, there is a lot of work to be done before the sysops' visions can become reality. Also what I can envision as a sysop may be a far cry from what you want as a user of a BCS network. Leave your name and number on the BBS if you are interested in joining the effort to create a BCS network, and I will forward it to Dick TenEyck of the Telecommunications group.

RCP/M Help

Here is a brief summary of the commands to get your exploration of the file area of the Boskug board started. To enter the RCP/M area, type C at the main menu. As you enter the RCP/M area you will see the following text file created by Irv Hoff:

```
CP/M uploads are in B0:, CP/M files are on drives B:, C:, and D:
MS-DOS uploads are in E0:, MS-DOS files are on drives E: and F:.
TEXT files are in A1: (General), A2: (CP/M), A3: (MS-DOS), and A4: (KUGEL)
BYE <ret> to sign off from the RCP/M area
BBS <ret> to return to the message system from the RCP/M area
```

We now have several help files on the A0: drive. When going to CP/M to look around, type:

```
B0>A0: <ret>      (B0: used as an example here of some drive/user area where
you might   currently be when you wish to go to A0:)
```

Then do a:

```
A0>DIR <ret>
```

to see a directory of all the help files and utilities that you can use.

BBS	to return to the message section
BYE	to sign off system from the RCP/M area
CALLERS	shows last 20 callers on the system
CHAT	talk with Sysop (if available) via keyboard
KMD	file transfer program supports 1k and batch transfers (see HELPKMD)
FOR	shows descriptions of recent uploads
NEW	shows recent uploads in inverse order (if on E: or F: will show FOR and NEW for MS-DOS)
NOTE	can type a message to Sysop from CP/M section
HELP	show and explain various CP/M commands
HELPKMD	show and explain KMD file transfer commands
MAP	shows the general layout of the BOSKUG user area
SYSMAP	same as MAP, shows general layout
DIR	actually SD, shows files in current DU, type DIR ? to see other features available
CHEK	checks CRC of a file or group of files
FILE	searches for a file name in all drive/user areas in just a few seconds. To find COMPARE.LBR, type COM*.* <ret> which is enough of a hint to the pgm.
LCHEK	checks the CRC of a file in a library
LDIR	gives directory of files in a library
LUX	can be used with .ARC, .ARK or .LBR files to see contents, view files, extract them.
TYPE	will type any ASCII file whether normal, squeezed, crunched or in a library.
UNARC	shows contents of an .ARC or .ARK file, can type files in such a group (which may then be downloaded using KMD. LUX also uses this program automatically.

The help files should give ample assistance to anybody who is either unfamiliar with CP/M commands or who may wish to review their use.

Exchanging Files With KMD

Downloads are files that are sent 'down' from a remote computer to your computer. Uploads are files that you send 'up' to a remote computer. When you want to transfer a file, you first have to tell the sending computer to initiate the transfer, and then tell the receiving computer to prepare to receive a file or series of files. KMD can send ASCII and binary files in 128 byte blocks or 1k blocks using XMODEM Checksum or CRC protocol.

To download a file from the board type: KMD S FILENAME.EXT <ret>. The board will respond 'Ready to send FILENAME.EXT' and display the length of the file and the amount of time it will take to download the file. You can cancel a file transfer by sending several Ctrl-Xs to the board. If you are using IMP, exit from terminal mode and type: R FILENAME.EXT <ret>. If you are using Procomm press the PgDn key, select XMODEM 1K as your downloading protocol, and type FILENAME.EXT <ret>. Once your terminal program has 'shaken hands' with the remote system you will see a countdown of the blocks that have been transferred. You can use KMD's batch feature by typing: KMD SB FILENAME.* <ret> to send several files with different extents. (See HELPKMD for more information on using wild cards with batch transfers.) To receive a batch of files with IMP type: RB <ret>. You can use KMD's batch feature with ProComm if you select YMODEM protocol, but you won't see any file length

information before the file is transferred.

To upload to the board type: KMD R FILENAME.EXT <ret>. KMD will display the amount of space available in the upload area, and ask you to indicate if the file is for CP/M or MS-DOS

"The board doesn't count time spent uploading a complete file against your time remaining on line. Your uploads will be welcomed by many users of the board."

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users. Cancel the upload if it is larger than the remaining space available. If you're using IMP, exit from terminal mode and type: S FILENAME.EXT <ret>. If you're using ProComm, press the PgUp key, select XMODEM 1K protocol, and type: FILENAME.EXT <ret>. Once you have uploaded a file, the board will ask you for a seven line description of the file. I've found it helpful to write my file descriptions on a piece of scrap paper while the upload is in progress.

The board doesn't count time spent uploading a complete file against your time remaining on line. Your uploads will be welcomed by many users on the board. The majority of software on the board has been collected by individuals who take the time to upload files. As a rule sysops prefer users who leave messages and upload files. Sysops have coined the term 'lurker' to describe a user who reads the entire message base and downloads files, but never leaves a message or uploads a file.

Last But Not Least

The Area command is now working properly! You can select an area and exclusively read all of the messages in that area using the Area command.

Several users have asked about the absence of a message deletion command. As part of the board design, I decided to omit a message deletion command. When we were running ROS, we found many messages were immediately deleted upon receipt, which made it very hard to follow the thread of a continuing conversation. This board is set up to automatically delete messages which have been read (those marked with an (R)) after 15 days to insure that the message base doesn't grow too large! This design seems to be working well so far, and the complaints have been few and far between.

A few users have noticed that they can't leave private messages on the board, except by going into the RCP/M area and

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"The Area Command is now working properly!"

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using the NOTE command to leave a private message to me. Again, this is because many interesting messages were posted privately when we were running ROS, and it was difficult to follow discussions. In any case, private mail on a BBS isn't really private because it can be read by sysops. I hope that the message base design will facilitate the free exchange of messages amongst users. As always I welcome your feedback on this subject in particular and the BBS in general.

Bio: Adam Heath is BOSKUG's local Sysop and workshop coordinator.

Letters

To the editor,

The Director's Letter in the June-July Kugel certainly presented us with much to ponder and digest. It also had a slight misconception expressed on page 16 that might lead some to believe that the Kaypro 1 and 2X do not have the same performance. This is not so, although with the plethora of computer name changes and type modifications that have come from Kaypro in the past 18 months, it is easy to see how this confusion might have occured.

Kaypro's current technical literature shows that the Kaypro 1 and 2X CP/M models have identical clock speeds (4-mhz) and "high resolution" video displays that are graphics capable. This is in contrast to the old Kaypro 4'83's that had a 2.5-mhz speed and no video graphics. The Kaypro 1 is not a clone of the old 4'83.

We can confirm this from within our department at Glasboro State College where we have several rooms full of Kaypro 1 and 2X computers. I suppose proof that the Kaypro 1 is NOT a clone of the old Kaypro 4'83 is that it accepts a Tur-

boROM designed for running in '84 series CP/M Kaypros (another type of TurboROM is required for '83 series Kaypros). We have done it. (We can't imagine anyone with a Kaypro CP/M machine that hasn't replaced the stock ROM with and Advent TurboROM. The difference is phenomenal, skill required for replacement is nil and the cost is insignificant - $59.)

This is not to say that there are no differences between the 1 and 2X. The 2X has an internal 300-baud modem and real time clock that the 1 doesn't have. The 1's serial ports are also located differently. This latter variant only becomes a factor when replacing main boards.

Lest you begin to think that we in the hinterlands of deep southern New Jersey are Neandethals still using over a score of CP/M machines and ordering more, we also have IBM PC's, Kaypro PC's and Kaypro 286i's. However, the Kaypro CP/M machines are preferred for word processing and other tasks except for certain types of graphics work and desktop publishing.

Hal Vogel
Willingboro, NJ

Norton Utilities to the Rescue
by Mark Booher

A case study of file recovery using a well-know utility program

At work a couple of months ago, a very distressing situation happened to me while I was using a Compaq DeskPro with an attached Iomega 20+20 Bernoulli Box. It turned out that I had 20 megabytes worth of data that I could no longer access — four months of work! After recovering from my initial panic, I called the BCS for the name of someone that could help me with this catastrophe. Jim Gerow was kind enough to introduce me to Norton Utilities and walk me through resurrecting the 20 meg Bernoulli cartridge. In return, I am willing to help walk anyone who experiences a similar problem. In this article I will describe how my problem occurred and how I was able to recover all my data.

The Problem:

I was running Sidekick (1.52) with Micro Soft Word (3.1) on my Compaq with the Bernoulli Box using MS-DOS version 2.2 I was editing a file with Word on the Bernoulli D: drive. I finished editing the file, saved it, and tried to access the Bernoulli cartridge in D: with a DIR command. What I got instead was garbage on the screen. The only things I could make sense of were words I had just deleted from the file on which I was working — except they now appeared as filenames and directory names. I started to panic; I removed the cartridge from D: and placed a new one in to see if the drive was at fault, it was not. Something was very wrong with the cartridge that I had spent four months preparing database structures on. I carefully kept this cartridge out of the machine to avoid making any more errors on it.

The Solution:

After calling BCS and getting in touch with Jim Gerow, I learned about Norton Utilities and how MS-DOS defines a disk and how it knows where files and directories are located. Luckily, there were no problems in the bootable area or in the File Allocation Tables. My problem was in the root directory area. The entries that told DOS where my subdirectories were located had been written over, so as far as MD-DOS knew, they no longer existed. In this particular case, the root directory started in Sector 17 because clusters are defined as 8 sectors long on my cartridge, not 4 or 2 sectors long.

I was told that I could use DEBUG or Norton Utilities to fix my problem area. Because Norton Utilities was easier and I had access to it, I choose Norton Utilities. Here are the steps I was told to follow to resurrect my missing directories and files.

1. Make a copy of the damaged cartridge and do your work on the copy. IOMEGA utilities can do a track by track copy.
2. Start Norton Utilities up and select the drive you wish to work on (in this case D:).
3. Search the entire disk for the name of the subdirectory you are searching for. This can be entered in ASCII letters and numbers, not in hexadecimal unless you wish to. When a match is found, press the return key until you get a display that looks like a screen you get when you use DIR in a subdirectory. Write down the number of cluster. It will be in base 10.
4. Go to Sector 17 and write in the name of the subdirectory as listed below. Each file is described by 32 bytes of information and are filled out in parts as the steps below.
   a) The first 11 bytes are for the file name. Put in the directory name here and use 20h to fill out the remaining bytes.
   b) In byte 12 put a 10h, this says that is a subdirectory.
   c) In bytes 13 to 26 fill out with 00h.
   d) In byte 27, the low byte of cluster number (in hex).
   e) In byte 28, the high byte of cluster number (in hex).
   f) In bytes 29 to 32 fill out with 00h (file size if needed)
5. Save changes in step 4 and exit to DOS. Log to disk and change to the directory name. Use DIR to see if your files are there. If not, repeat steps 1-4.
6. Once a directory and its files are recovered, copy them to another disk, a good one. Repeat the above steps until you have recovered all your directories. I only did this one directory at a time, because otherwise, I received a "working space full" message from Norton Utilities. I used the same location in sector 17 for each directory I recovered, hence overwriting the previous one I had just changed. No problem.

Conclusion:

While I am not sure exactly why I had the problems that I did with the above configuration, (neither did Microsoft or Iomega) the above procedure fortunately allowed me to resurrect the directories on my Bernoulli cartridge. The same would work for hard disks and floppy disks. Of course, the moral of this story is to back up often! If you don't, there still is a chance that you can rescue your data if you don't write anything else to that disk after you discover the error. Since I successfully survived a potential disaster, I would be glad to lend support to those who find themselves in a similar situation.

Mark Booher, Ph.D. Mark works at the Brockton VA as a Research Psychologist His phone number there is 583-4500 x731.

Letters

Dear Adam Heath,

This is to thank you and Michael Spampinato for the very helpful Boskug MS-DOS Workshop. I have begun getting involved with microcomputing in only the last year of so; I had been learning DOS from a Leading Edge 3.1 guide, but hearing the concepts articulated and demonstrated was most valuble and greatly accelerates my learning curve. In addition the utility disk of public domain software is quite useful and will provide me with new avenues of application.

Your sharing of knowledge is truly in the spirit of the BCS. Thanks again.

James A. Harrison
Brookline, MA

Affordable Buffering

$69 Printer Buffer
Central Computer Products
330 Central Avenue Fillmore, CA 93015
800/533-8049

Hardware review by Sarah Wernick

Even a laser printer can't print as quickly as your computer can feed it information. Hence the printer buffer, a device that accepts computer output at high speed, then spoons it out to your printer, leaving your computer free for its next task.

The problem with printer buffers is that they're expensive. That's why I was tempted by Central Computer Products' $69 64K printer buffer. Apparently I wasn't the only one. As CCP warned when I placed my order last January, the buffer took nearly two months to arrive.

The bottom line: Cheap is cheap. The $69 buffer reeks of cheapness, but it does its job—and does it for less than half the price of other 64K printer buffers.

How, you might ask, does a printer buffer manage to reek of cheapness? Just hold the small (about the size of a thick paperback) plastic box in your hand. The on-off switch, the two buttons (Repeat and Clear, explained below), the DC input and the parallel port are all flimsy. Anything that's supposed to connect is slightly loose. Mine hadn't been assembled properly, something that a myopic five year old could have discerned upon casual inspection. That tells you something about quality control. I had to use a rubber band to hold the cable to the buffer's input port. We're talking serious lack of class.

By the time I'd checked out the buffer long enough to decide between returning and exchanging, I was already hooked on it. The buffer had arrived while I was rushing to finish an article. I connected it in less than a minute (plug in; attach printer cable to buffer, buffer cable to printer; turn on and wait for eight second self test). While the buffer was typing the covering letter in Perfect Writer, I ran the article through The Word for a final spell check. Then I let the buffer print out the article in Wordstar (I hit the Repeat key to get a second file copy), and quickly wrote up my expense report in Perfect Writer. Suddenly my 18 cps printer didn't seem quite so pokey. Central Computer took back my lopsided buffer, reimbursed my postage, and sent a properly assembled replacement.

Printer buffer ads seem to imply that the buffers accept input with the speed of light. But there's a catch: when you use a word processing program to send files, the computer needs time to think about formatting, read the disk, etc. For instance, it took just over 4 minutes for Wordstar to send a 26K text file (17 page double-spaced manuscript) to the buffer. The very same manuscript, converted into an ASCII file, could be dumped to the buffer with PIP in just under 40 seconds. But how do you convert a Wordstar manuscript into an ASCII file?

You use Wordstar's Print command to create the file—for this manuscript, that process took 3 minutes and 45 seconds. So if you use a dot matrix, and normally print files from a word processing program, a buffer isn't going to change your life.

The $69 buffer has no provision for pausing between pages; if you select that option by software, the program will send one page at a time to the buffer, so the computer will be tied up for the entire printing time. However, you can print subsequent copies on continuous paper by pressing Repeat — a useful feature that multiplies time savings.

When you send a printing job to the $69 buffer, its "full" light begins to flash slowly. The flash speeds up as the buffer fills. Each time you finish a print job, the buffer should be cleared with a press of the "Clear" button, or it may run out of space. If you press "Repeat," the buffer dumps its entire memory to the printer (possibly more than you care to dump if you aren't diligent about clearing). In addition to the initial self test, the buffer can be unplugged from computer and printer, and plugged into itself for a complete diagnostic self test.

There are even cheaper alternatives for the impatient. You can use Wordstar's buffering capabilities to do some editing while it is printing, and there are public domain print spoolers that permit you to use the computer while printing. But there's no comparison in convenience; also, some programs refuse to share memory with a spooler.

Not everyone needs a printer buffer. But if this is something you've always wanted but couldn't afford, CPP's $69 version is worth considering.

Sarah Wernick is a freelance writer who has become dependent on her $69 printer buffer.

CP/M Library (continued from page 3)

currently have, and either author or assist other members in authoring NEW programs. Membership on this committee is not restricted in any way. We need as many Committee Members as we can get to maintain and improve the holdings of the Library. We need members to cover PerfectWriter, TurboPascal, MBasic (or SBasic, EBasic, etc.), WordStar, general CP/M utilities; Kaypro-specific utilities (including graphics), PerfectFiler, PerfectCalc, MicroPlan (or ProfitPlan), DBase II, CalcStar, DataStar and ReportStar, pseudo-desktop publishing and font-generating programs (Bradford etc.), keyboard redefinition programs (Qwikkey, Kstrokes, etc.) and any that I FORGOT!

As you can see, there is a lot of work to be done! It can only be done... and done right, if Boskug members get involved! We will train any member who wishes to work in an area that they are not familiar with. This means that you don't need to be an expert or power-user to help, just have a desire to help fellow members. As the Army used to say "WE NEED YOU!"

For more information or to help-out call:

Art LeFort
(617)326-8976
(24 hr answering)

Market Manager Plus

Dow Jones Market Analyser
Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
(609) 452-1511

A Software Review
by Yale Goldman

The Dow Jones Market Analyzer (hereafter DJMA) is a menu driven collection of programs that allows an investor to log onto the Dow Jones "News Retrieval" and related databases, download price and volume history on most stock market averages, individual stocks, bonds, commodities, options, and mutual funds, and draw charts with the information gathered. The graphics programs to display these charts are included. The current discounted mail order price of the "Market Analyzer" is about $140. Of course, you need a graphics card to use the program.

Although primarily designed to assist investors in a technical analysis of stock performances, the program can also be used to gather information for fundamental analysis. Therefore, an investor can easily combine the fundamental and technical approaches to investing using the software to enter the data bases.

Investors who use fundamental analysis as a guide to buying and selling stocks believe that the study of macro- and micro- economic statistics, a firm's income statement and balance sheet, and information about a company's management will lead to profitable investments. This is the kind of information an investor would use if buying a business directly. Many databases exist that provide this type of information. They are accessible using a modem, on disks updated weekly or monthly, as well as on old-fashioned paper. Many successful investors use fundamental analysis.

On the other hand, investors using technical analysis believe that all the fundamental information available is factored into the current price of stocks. Technicians also believe that so many conflicting fundamental factors affect the future price of a stock that fundamental analysis cannot be used to forecast future price action. How can you know as much about the fundamental worth of a company as its officers, directors, accountants, lawyers, and bankers?

Instead, technical analysts forecast stock market price movements based on price and volume histories. In the belief that history will repeat itself, technicians use charts of these statistics to forecast future action of the market based on the assumption that the psychology of the investor is constant.

Technicians argue that information about past and current prices, together with volume (number of shares bought and sold), can be used to predict future price action. They caution, however, that prediction using technical analysis is an "art." They use, as their basic premise, a belief that stock prices move in "trends" and that these trends can be used to forecast prices. The technician's "art" allows him to predict when a trend will "reverse."

Technicians are also known as "chartists." They organize price and volume information into charts to display price and volume "trends." Until recently, investors entered price and volume data onto graph paper and drew trend lines using pencil and ruler. Now, however, the well-connected investor can dial up a data base, down-load as much data as he likes, and use his computer to draw graphs on the screen or print them out on paper. The individual charts I have included show each day's high, low, closing price (the tic mark), and volume. The curve is the 12 day moving average. The program will create many more indicators using the data on the disk.

The "GENE" (Genentech, Figure 1) chart shows what happened to the stock when the FDA did not approve its product, TPA. Would you have purchased shares when the closing price "broke through" the average on increasing volume in July? I did! (I only talk about my winners.)
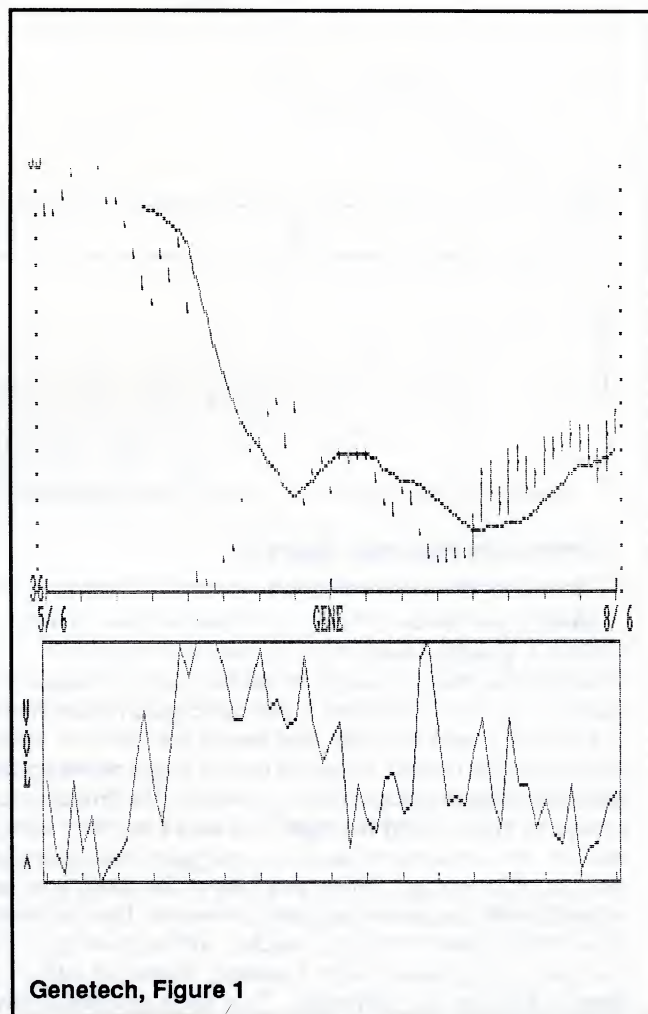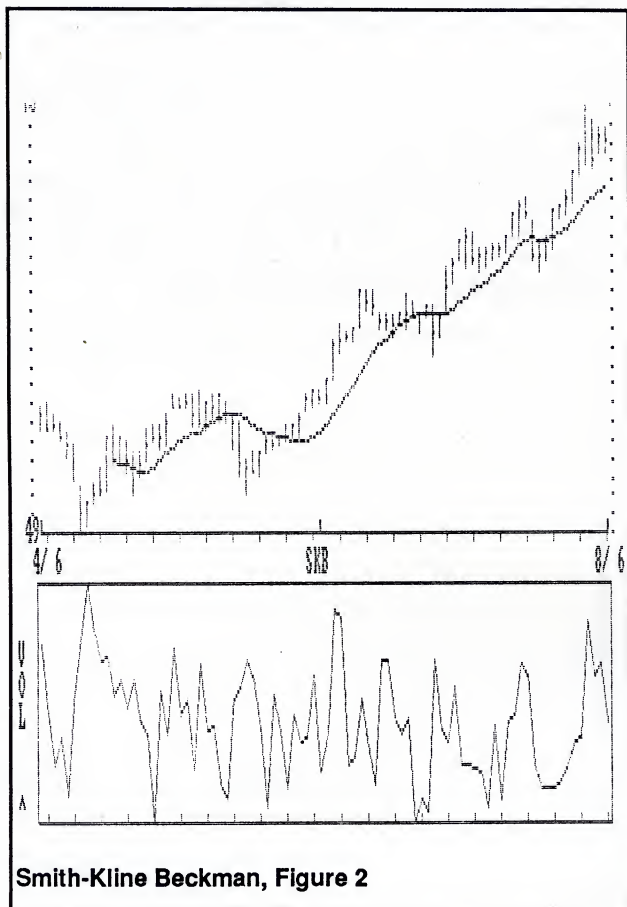

Genetech, Figure 1

The "SKB" (Smith-Kline Beckman, Figure 2 on page 10) chart shows price increase on rising volume and declining prices on reduced volume. Anyone who bought shares during the rise (of course) made money.

The chart comparing the price action of the Dow Jones Industrial average, Johnson and Johnson, and National Service Industries show that on April 6, money would have been better

invested in JNJ than in NSI(Dow - Jones, Figure 3 on page 10).
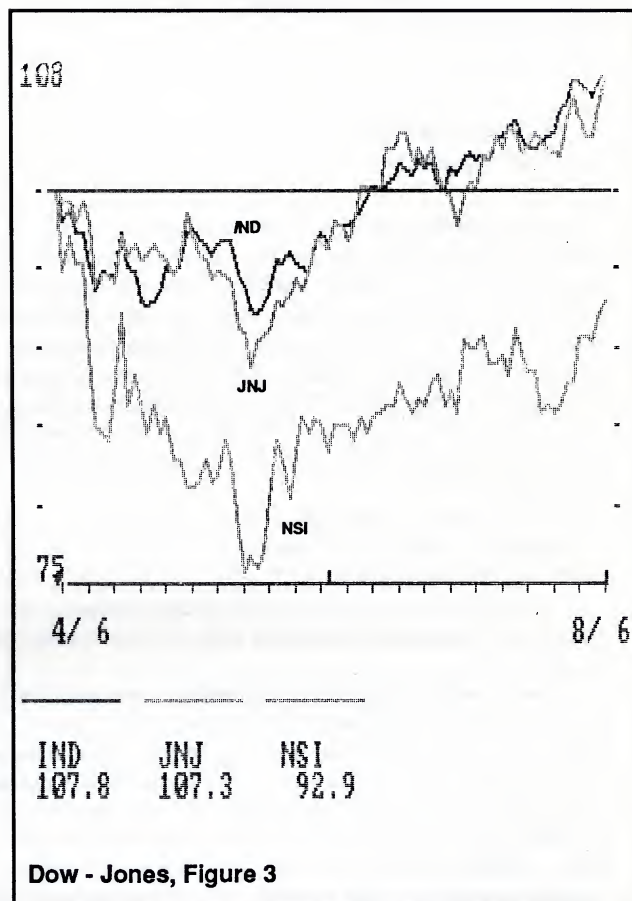Would you have sold NSI early and invested the money in JNJ?

developed using fundamental and technical analysis should
give you a better chance at a profit than using darts.

Smith-Kline Beckman, Figure 2

IND	JNJ	NSI
107.8	107.3	92.9

Dow - Jones, Figure 3

Most of us who invest in the stock market do so in order to achieve a greater return than is available elsewhere. An investment in stocks is subject to the risk of loss of capital and uncertain income. Therefore, if you could get a certain return of 6% from a bank account, you would not invest in stocks hoping for a 5% return. I know of no way to guarantee a profit when investing in stocks. When you invest, the broker, salesperson, or mutual fund manager, will earn a fee: they always win! As when you bet at the races, your gains exist only after the cost of investing. When you lose at the track, you can rationalize the loss as entertainment; however, I am not entertained when I lose investing in stocks. When investing at the race track, most bettors have a system. Some bet only long shots, others bet only favorites. Two math professors have joined forces and bet only favorites to show.

Stock market investors also have systems. Some pin the newspaper on a cork board and throw darts at the stock pages. Others engage in fundamental analysis or technical analysis or both. If you invest, develop a simple system that you understand and will follow. If it works, great! Otherwise, invest only in stocks recommended by your sister-in-law.

A "system" cannot a profit from every investment. A usable "system" should develop more profits than losses. A "system"

The "Market Analyzer" is a reasonably priced program for those who invest using technical analysis. The most used charts and indicators are supported. The manual briefly explains the use of the indicators and charts and refers the user to books on the subject.

This program assumes that the investor has a working understanding of technical analysis. An example of an introductory text for this kind of technical analysis is "Your Personal Computer Can Make You Rich in Stocks, and Commodities" by Curtis M. Arnold (Weiss Research, Inc., 2000 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. Suite 200, West Palm Beach, FL 33409, about $15).

The Dow Jones Market Analyzer is appropriate for those who are familiar with and would like to use basic technical analysis techniques to invest in the stock market.

The data files are created using "BASIC." A description of the files is available from Dow Jones or from me for those who would like to manipulate the data using other programs.

Yale Goldman is a recently retired insurance advisor and securities broker. He is currently renovating the windows in his house.

Taking the Spreadsheet Out of the Boardroom

Spreadsheets As An Intermediate Step In Data Analysis

by Willie Lockeretz

When I first started using a Kaypro, I didn't expect to have much use for a spreadsheet. The little I knew about this type of program was gleaned from advertisements, which always featured things like financial planning, depreciation schedules, and profit and loss projections. As someone who knows nothing — and cares even less — about Presentation Graphics, Bottom Lines, or Corner Offices, I didn't see that there could be much in it for me. It seemed that the main shtick was that this or that spreadsheet could put me on the Fast Track, in turn letting me get Up the Corporate Ladder, at the top of which, presumably, I would find the Key to the Executive Bathroom.

Well I was wrong. Nowadays I probably get more use out of spreadsheets than any other single category of software. But first I needed some consciousness-raising. For starters, this meant acknowledging that no matter what the numbers represent, a tabular array of numbers is a tabular array of numbers, and a program that lets you manipulate such an array quickly and conveniently could be very handy even if the numbers didn't happen to have dollar signs in front of them. Second, I realized that the manipulations you might perform with such a program could be very different from the operations the dressed-for-success types in the ads were doing. In fact, spreadsheets could be useful even if you didn't do any manipulations with them at all.

That was the real breakthrough. Spreadsheets might be great for calculating net present value or internal rate of return, but in my work I do statistical computations that would be impossible on a spreadsheet, things like multiple regressions and factor analysis. For this I need a scientific statistics package. But rather than ruling out spreadsheets, I started using them to prepare the data for a statistics program that would do the real analysis. In other words, the fact that a spreadsheet can't do the kinds of calculations I need is not important — I don't depend on it for calculations. But as an intermediary between raw data and statistical analysis, a spreadsheet has simplified my life immensely. I happen to favor SuperCalc2, which works very nicely on a CP/M Kaypro, but the basic idea would hold for any reasonably powerful spreadsheet.

I often work with moderately large arrays of demographic, economic, and agricultural data — perhaps 12 numbers for each of 150 counties, say. I use SuperCalc2 for three purposes. First, it's a convenient way to enter the data. Second, it can help spot large errors (like an extra zero after a number). Third, it's a convenient way to compute additional variables from the raw data. After it has done all that, the statistics program is ready to take over. A statistics package could have done the first three tasks, too, but most don't do them as conveniently. This added convenience should not entail any new problems. Any good statistics program and any good spreadsheet should have at least one format in common that permits them to be linked this way. That is, the spreadsheet should be able to write a file that the statistics program can use as input.

I begin an analysis with a blank spreadsheet that has the right column and row labels, but with a dashed line where each number is to go. Printed out, this is a very efficient form on which to copy numbers from a source that you can't take back to the office, such as the Census. (A laptop would eliminate the needed for writing the numbers down at all, of course.) When you enter the data into the computer, the spreadsheet on the screen corresponds in every visual detail to the sheet from which you are reading the numbers — the rows and columns are in the right order, the headings are identical, the column widths are the same, and so forth. This helps eliminate a very common error — your eye skipping to the wrong line.

Checking for order-of-magnitude errors is easily done by asking the spreadsheet to report the maximum and minimum value in a row or column. For some kinds of data, values that are way out of line are obviously wrong. The average age in a county is not likely to be 272 — 27.2 is more like it. But for some variables an extreme value is not necessarily an error. In that case, the trick is to construct a new variable whose range is more restricted than the original one. For example, the population of towns and cities might range from a few hundred to several million. But if you are using population data from two different census years, the spreadsheet can quickly compute the percentage change. If you see a change of +923% in a decade, there is a pretty good chance that a digit was repeated or a decimal misplaced — exactly the kind of error that is most likely to occur with manual data entry. If you are clever in concocting new variables you should be able to detect every order-of-magnitude error. It's not a substitute for comparing each number to the source, of course. But that can be very monotonous and wearying, which means an error can slip past. It's nice to have a second line of defense.

Finally, most data analysis will require you to construct new variables from the raw data (I'm talking now about quantities that are of interest in their own right, not just as a way of detecting errors). I prefer doing this on the spreadsheet rather than with the statistics package because I can see the results before they get irrevocably stored with all the other data. A statistics package is a black box: you put in the data at one end, and you get results out the other. But you don't see what goes on in between. I like to keep an eye on the data as much as possible. With a spreadsheet you can inspect the newly created variables, get familiar with them, fondle them, do whatever you want with them (in private, and with their consent, of course). I prefer to relinquish control to the statistics package only after the spreadsheet has done everything it can.

In short, I use a statistics package for the things that only a statistics package can do. But a spreadsheet is a much more practical and pleasant way to do the tedious but necessary preliminaries: to enter the raw numbers, check them, and carry

A WordStar 4 Printer Glitch

by Bill Whitcraft

In which Bill encounters a surmountable printing problem

I sent MicroPro my old CP/M WordStar master disk, together with a modest check, and in less than two weeks received an imposing box containing a copy of WordStar 4 Professional for MS/DOS. Unfortunately the new program came on 3 1/2" disks, not the 5 1/4" format requested. A couple of weeks after returning the unopened WS4 shipment, I received the correct program, and put it to work immediately.

Lee Lockwood's inspiring article (KUGEL for June-July '87) was right on the mark in his assessment of the program; I personally feel it is potentially a good match for WordPerfect. I say potentially, because WS4 is new and has at least one "glitch" which floored me when I tried to print a document — it may have other glitches I haven't yet encountered.

I installed the program on my hard disk, using the WIN-STALL short form program, and checked thoroughly to make sure all questions had been correctly recorded. The Tutorial worked well, and my Epson FX-80 nicely printed out the sample program which had been edited as part of the tutorial program. All was right with the world...

Now I wanted to put WS4 to work; I wrote a thoughtful letter to an old friend who is just starting his retirement and needed some encouragement. I saved the file to disk and, at the opening menu, invoked the print command (the letter P). The message on the screen said "printing", but the printer was doing nothing (no, I had not forgotten to turn on the power switch!). I tried everything I could dream up, to no avail — the program would not drive the printer.

I called a couple of Boskug experts (all Boskug members are experts anyway, aren't we?) but they had not run into my particular problem; eventually I called MicroPro. A very helpful young lady came on the line after a five minute wait; she led me through some tests, determined that I had made no errors in installation, and then took me into the alternate installation program called WSCHANGE. This latter is a very detailed program, for those who want to customize WS.EXE.

In WSCHANGE we went to the Printer menu (the menus are quite clear and helpful), to the Printer Interface menu, where we instructed the program to direct the printer calls to the LPT1 port. This actually duplicated the instruction I had made during my installation phase, but it solved the problem. Apparently on a few machines the WINSTALL short-form installation program fails properly to record the "redirection" to LPT1, although it swears it has done so when you query it. Since LPT1 is the default port anyway, this is strange indeed.

After the remedial action the program behaves itself very well, printing quite properly on my FX-80. If you need to patch the program as I did, you will find the detailed instructions in Appendix C of the Instruction Manual on page 314. According to the young lady who kindly led me through the procedure,

the "glitch" affects only a few machines, and the cause is as yet unknown. My Kaypro PC evidently is one of the machines sensitive to this particular glitch.

Bill Whitcraft plays traditional jazz on a variety of instruments. He is a former Boskug Secreatry.

Spreadsheets (continued from page 11)

out first-level processing. As soon as I started using Super-Calc2 this way, I found that it was a true anomaly in the world of commercial personal computer packages — a program suitable for an even wider range of applications than its advertising claimed. It also is a true anomaly in having earned the highest tribute I have ever bestowed on anything in my overflowing box of non-bundled software: I own it legally.

Willie Lockeretz wonders if any of you KUGers out there would be willing to let him come to your next Power Lunch.

Director's Letter (continued from page 1)

However, it turns out the BCS means business. And the compelling reason is that its lease on One Center Plaza runs out in February 1989.

The BCS is now circulating questionnaires to ascertain the preferences of its members as to location, size, configuration, etc. of the new headquarters. (If you wish to fill one out, either come to a meeting or write to me.) In the meantime, here's what is being contemplated, quoted from a letter from Jonathan Rotenberg: (see diagram on page 13)

...a location that:

1) is near a major highway; 2) is within a short walk of an MBTA subway or trolley station; 3) has free parking for at least 200 cars in the evening and 40 in the day, and 4) between 10,000 and 15,000 sq ft of space.

Also, the location must have access for the disabled.

News Up To The Minuteman

While waiting for the wonderful new auditorium, we will continue holding our monthly program meetings at Minuteman this year on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, beginning September 8th.

An announcement about the September and October programs appears elsewhere in this issue.

For information about snow emergencies, power outages and other acts of God that might prevent our group of early Christians from assembling, call the BCS Hotline.

CP/M WordStar 4

Hot on the heels of the DOS version, we've received a betatest copy of the CP/M version of the new WordStar. Alan Campbell will be giving it a run for its money and the results will be published in this magazine later in the Fall. Meanwhile, WordStar 5 for DOS is promised before the end of this year, and we'll get a copy and keep you posted. Once again, though, I think MicroPro should be complimented for investing in revisions of its CP/M programs. Perhaps some other manufactur-

ers will follow suit.

Amstrad Over The Ocean

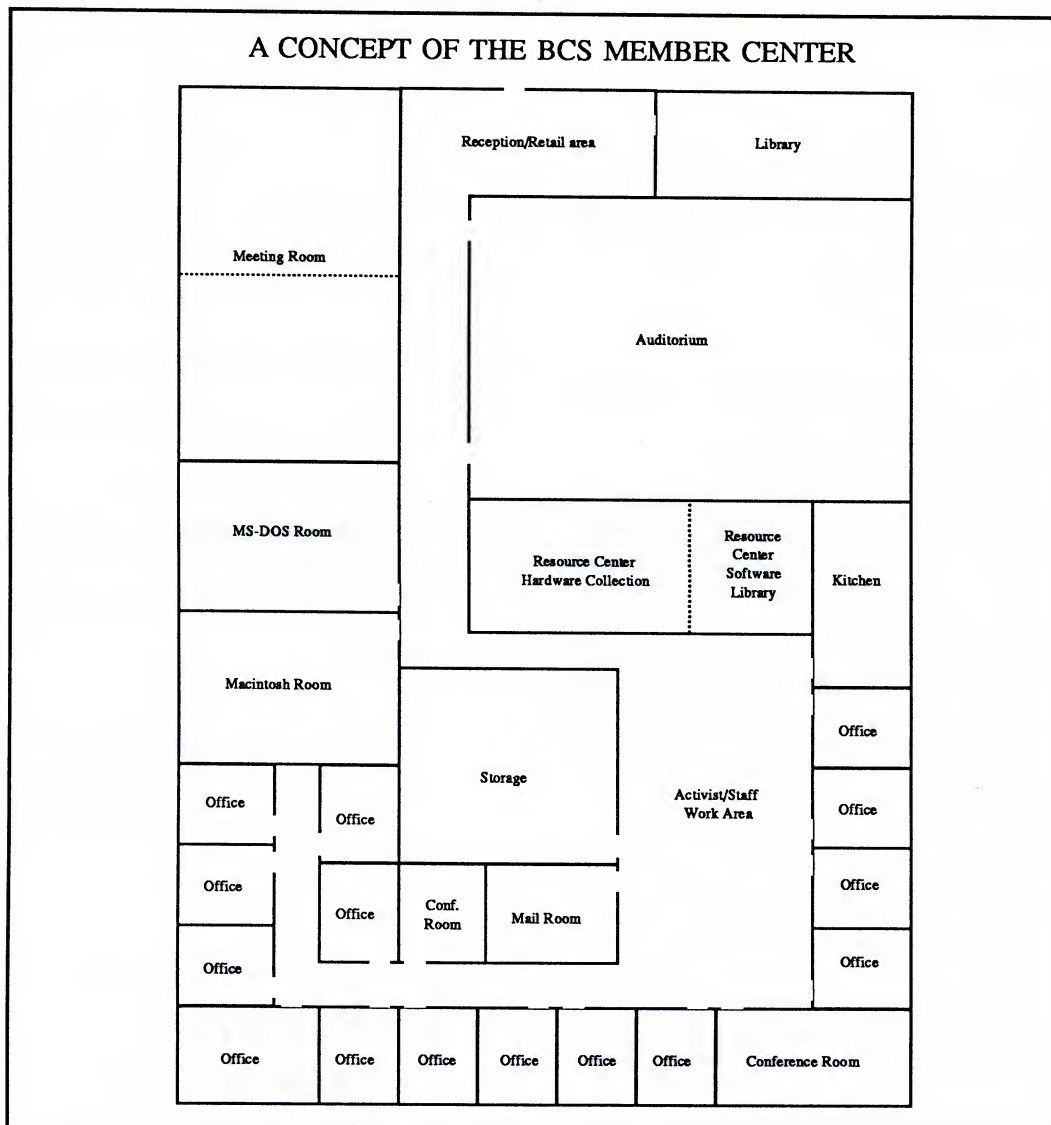Blimey, but there's a new CP/M computer coming!

Not new, actually, but one which Amstrad has been happily marketing by the tens of thousands in England and on the Continent for several years. On this side of the water it's being marketed as the Amstrad Word Processor. But never fear, Ducky, it's a real computer and it runs on that funny operating

Most quoted of the bunch: Jay Sage. (As you might have guessed).

Reminder: we are transcribing the panel tape and plan to offer copies for sale. If you're interested, contact me.

Kaypro The Corp

After 5 consecutive profitable quarters, Kaypro Corp. lost $800,000 in its first fiscal quarter of 1986, despite a sales increase of $6 million over the previous quarter. InfoWorld,

A CONCEPT OF THE BCS MEMBER CENTER

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│ Meeting Room    Reception/Retail area    Library             │
│                                                              │
│ MS-DOS Room         Auditorium                               │
│                                                              │
│ Macintosh Room   Resource Center   Resource Center  Kitchen  │
│                  Hardware Collection  Software Library        │
│ Office  Office      Storage      Activist/Staff    Office     │
│ Office           Office  Conf.   Work Area         Office     │
│ Office            Room  Mail Room                  Office     │
│                                                    Office     │
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system. More than one Boskug member has this little beast, and we'd appreciate hearing from them, or from anyone else who gets one. We'd especially like to hear what software it's running.

Boskug Panel Gets Ink

Random Access, a monthly computer newspaper published by the Interface Group, ran two stories on Boskug's June panel on "Whither (And Whence) CP/M" in its July issue.

"CP/M flame burns brightly in the hearts of some fans" was the title of the front-page report. The reporter, Ann Zevnick, interviewed all five panelists by phone and quoted at length.

the influential computer news weekly, implied that a better-run company would simply be doing better financially. However, Kaypro has done a great deal to beef up its infrastructure in the last year and in general seems to be holding its own in the MS- DOS computer arena. The last six months have not been boom times for the personal computer industry, due mostly to fears about IBM.

Kaypro still has not announced any plans for competing with IBM's OS/2 system computers, but such an announcement will doubtless be forthcoming soon. Kaypro's stock continues to hover around $2.00.

Lap to Desk, or It's simple when you know how

by Don Hinds

Making Connections

Well I finally sold that item. Took the cash and my refund which I had tucked under my Leading Edge Model M and got that used IBM convertible computer. A good deal, with 512K, the serial/parallel module and the external module with monitor. But, besides the DOS disk almost nothing for software. No modem. I wanted to take it on my vacation in less than a week and I needed to be able to connect it to a desk bound computer.

First I borrowed an external modem at work. Someone at work with a laptop put Procomm on a 3 1/2" disk for me. But I didn't have any luck at all. I later found that some of the modems were bad and I might have been using a malfunctioning unit. However, the suggestion that I try a null modem was put forth. I buzzed over to Unitech in Cambridge, got one for less than $9, and picked up ten 3-1/2" diskettes for less than $15 at the same time, so I'd have something to put the files on.

Back at work at the conclusion of the workday, I connected my IBM to a Leading Edge Model D with a serial cable and the null modem. The IBM also needed a gender-bender 'cause the serial port is male instead of the normal female — evidently to distinguish it from the female parallel port. Anyway both computers were turned on and Procomm was loaded. The Model D was set to COM1 and we tried to make the connection. We set one computer to auto-answer and dialed with the other. Then we tried the reverse. Next we tried sending <alt> Y for connect. Another person was called in and suggested using DIRECT instead of MODEM on the Host Mode menu of Procomm. We could get some response, but no real connect. We finally got a connection when using the <alt> Y, so we tried a transfer at 1200 baud, then 2400, 4800 and found it also worked at 9600 baud. Now that is something to see. Using Y-modem, it sends 1K blocks almost as fast as 1200 sends 128 byte blocks.

So I took the system apart and went home. I set it up with my Model M and had no difficulty getting a connection, after I remembered to set the Model M for COM1. In the next two evenings before my vacation, I transferred files from the Model M to the laptop. When I got home again, I wanted to do some more transfers. I discovered there are really no tricks at all to making the proper connection. Here's how it is done.

Connect the two computers serial ports with a cable and a null modem. The null modem is just a connecter with a couple of wires switched. Call Procomm on both computers and set them both for COM1. Then set them for 9600 baud and press <esc>. Now when you I type on one the letters appear on the other (if you want to see it on both use half-duplex). Then just press 'upload' on the one to send and 'download' on the one to receive. You have to have both keyboards at hand to make it convenient when typing the filenames for sending and receiving.

Other than using COM1 I don't set anything differently than when using the normal modem and telephone lines. For some reason, although transfers from the Model M to the laptop can be done at 9600, I have to cut back to 2400 and use xmodem instead of ymodem when going from the laptop to the Model M. However, I can exit from Procomm on either end, move, copy, Xarc files, etc. and then return to Procomm and reconnect just setting COM1 and the same baud as the other end. It is so easy making the connection, that for the life of me, I can't figure out why we had so much trouble in the beginning. I guess it's because we were trying 'tricks' like setting one on HOST mode and using ATD to dial from the other, etc.

So maybe it's not as fast as Laplink, Brooklyn Bridge, or Direct Link, but the cable and null modem cost less then $20. And you still need the cable with the fancy programs too.

1. **connect 2 serial ports with cable and a null modem**

2. **set both terms to COM1 (or serial port 1)**

3. **set matching baud rates**

4. **type a letter on one and see it on the other.**

You're connected and can up/download.
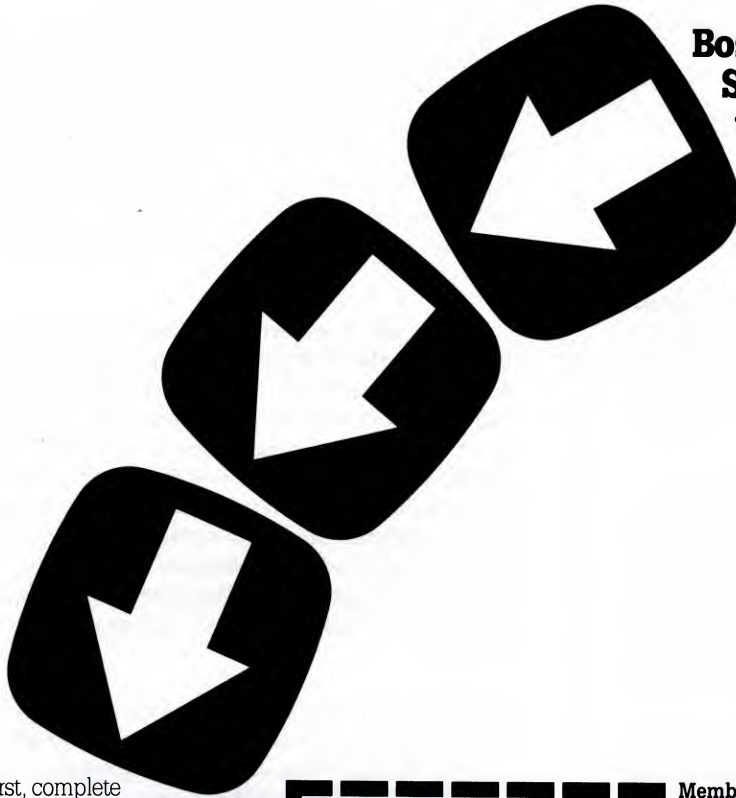
Have Fun!

P.S.

I did find one thing ESSENTIAL on the IBM Convertible. Unless you are using the AC adapter, you must use the setup SysProfile and tell the computer to use the battery power for the serial/parallel port. Otherwise there is no power to the port and it doesn't work.

Workshop Coordinator Wanted

Adam Heath is looking for someone to take over as Workshop Coordinator. He plans to resign, effective November 21st. The Workshop Coordinator is responsible for publicizing and organizing workshops. The workshops are an important source of support for group members, and provide a significant form of revenue to support other group activities.

Word Processing _____

Wordstar, CP/M Edition Release 4, Here at Last

by Jim Byram, BCS CP/M Group

Special notice — Jim Welch, the northeastern representative of MicroPro Corporation will introduce Wordstar, CP/M edition, Release 4, at the September meeting of the BCS CP/M group, Forsyth Dental Center, 140 The Fenway, Thursday, September 10, 7:30 PM. All are welcome. Beginners' Clinic at 7:00 PM.

On July 23, MicroPro Corporation announced release 4.0 of WordStar for CP/M. Shipment of upgrades to registered users is scheduled to begin on or about August 20. Upgrades can be ordered by calling MicroPro Customer Service at (800)227-5609 9:00 AM-9:00 PM EST. The cost of the upgrade is $89 plus state tax and shipping. A $10 discount on orders placed before the end of August is available to BCS members by asking for extension 6667. In addition to upgrades, new copies of Wordstar 4 can also be ordered from Customer Service.

Note — MicroPro has a unique upgrade policy. Any legitimate copy of WordStar (CP/M or MS/PC-DOS, normal release or OEM release such as Kaypro or Osborne, etc.) can be upgraded to the current CP/M or MS/PC-DOS version.

Some of the highlights of the program: UNDOKEYSTROKE MACROS FOUR-FUNCTION MATH CALCULATOR USER NUMBER and ZCPR NAMED DIRECTORY SUPPORT ONSCREEN BOLDFACING and UNDERLINING (if your terminal supports this) THE WORD PLUS SPELLING CHECKER MULTIPLE RULER LINES (which can be saved with your document) GO-TO-PAGE PRINT MULTIPLE COPIES and to ASCII MULTI-LINE HEADERS and FOOTERS.

This is not an advertisement; however, based on my experience with the DOS version of WordStar 4.0 (most, but not all new features are common to both CP/M and MS/PC-DOS versions), you will want to consider upgrading. One of the most significant features is the extensive patching info provided. With earlier versions of WordStar, the user community compiled and maintained complete listings of user modifiable patch locations. MicroPro learned from this and with release 4.0, has provided this information as well as a program to facilitate user patching of WordStar. The configurable options and patch locations far exceed those found in earlier WordStar releases.

Editor's note: In the next issue of the **Kugel**, we hope to bring you a full report on the CP/M version of WordStar Release 4. Among the reviewers will be Alan Chapman, who will compare WordStar 4 to NewWord, and Alan Campbell, who will discuss using it with ZCPR3.

Director's Letter (continued from page13)

Finding CP/M Software (Cont.)

We are in receipt of a catalog from something called The International Software Library ("Incredible Software for CP/M Computers, All for Only $4.99 per PROGRAM DISK" runs the blurb on the cover.)

The material appears to be all public domain stuff ("Distribution Fee" is $4.99 a disk), but includes a number of utilities for BASIC, DBASE, Perfect Calc, COBOL, MODULA 2, LISP and other widely varied files.

The toll-free number is 1-800-1992.

Kaypro Keyboards

Mike Bartell still has a few replacement keyboard assemblies available for $30. They must be picked up at a meeting, or else at Mike's house (call him: 628-8806). Going fast.

Th-th-th-that's all, folks!